

## RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

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Wyoming Board of Agriculture  
June 9, 2009  
Conference Call

Present: Juan Reyes  
Jim Hodder  
Shaun Sims  
Jim Bennage  
Joe Thomas  
Bryan Brost  
Jim Price  
Patrick Zimmerer  
Bridget Kukowski  
Dalin Winters  
Jason Fearneyhough

Absent: John Hansen  
Frank Galey  
Ryan Lance

Staff: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary  
Leanne Stevenson  
Jessica Crowder

Guests: Cindy Garretson-Weibel

### **Wyoming Stock Growers Update**

Joe said there was quite a discussion about the brand inspector layoffs and it was suggested by several participants that Lee Romsa retire because of the job he is doing. Joe said they need to watch Senate File 889 which is a milk marketing bill. Evidently the milk producers are wanted the consumers to pay the costs of them breaking even. Currently producers are not even breaking even and several of them are selling off their herds. If this bill goes through, the consumer could be paying around \$5 per gallon.

They talked about water pipeline in southern Wyoming. Wyoming has to deliver the water, but us WSGA doesn't support the pipeline. They felt they should deliver that water at the state line. Jim Hodder said the state engineer is staying pretty neutral, and he will research the issue further. The Wyoming Stock Growers will also be working with the state on the rules and regulations for wind energy. They also had a lengthy discussion about the Wyoming Livestock Board not waiting to take control of the small animals and that the definition of them is still on-going.

### **Game and Fish Meeting**

Joe wants topics by end of the month and finalized by July.

Jason asked Leanne to update the board on some of the issue her division is working on. She said they are working on the RMP planning for the Lander, Buffalo, and Big Horn Basin. They (BLM) continue to use livestock as mitigation for everything else.

Jessica said the management is better and herd levels are not changing with things like the drought. Livestock grazing seems to be the only thing that can change.

Juan feels there need to be some changes with the Game and Fish licensing process. **He said hunting has gone from meat hunters to trophy hunting and would like to see this issue discussed in September with the Commission.** Jim Bennage said he sees where the landowners are not as willing to have hunters on their land. The Game and Fish Herd Unit Objectives are licensing, herd numbers and access.

### **Board Updates**

Cap & Trade was discussed by Cindy Garretson-Weibel. Jason will check into it and have more information at the next meeting. Joe feels we need to help in defeating this bill. Leanne said of the Department comments on a federal bill we need to check with the Governor's office for the state's position.

Cindy said the Women in Ag were meeting June 30 in Converse County and invited anyone interested to attend.

Shaun said the budget cuts have really affected the Predator Boards. He would like to see the Board develop protocol for rangeland monitory. Jim Bennage agrees. Joe feels the Joint Ag Committee has shown support and maybe if the board gets a plan, they may support it with some funding. Juan is thinking it's not something either the Board or the Department should pursue.

Jim Hodder said they are thinking they may be able to test for Brucellosis without bleeding the calves.

Dalin said it would be helpful if the research at UW would publish their findings on the website. He has been in contact with Dr. Galey to see if this can't be done.

The show rings are in place and the artwork is done at State Fair. The Director's house will be constructed next, but this phase of construction is almost done  
There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joe Thomas, President

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Date